

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Previously amended) Liquid filter comprising a housing, a cover to seal said housing, a filter element arranged in said housing, and a supporting body for the filter element connected to the cover, wherein the housing has an inflow opening for the liquid to be filtered, an outlet opening for the filtered liquid, and a drain opening for the liquid, which is sealed during normal operation of the filter element and is opened for maintenance or replacement of the filter element, wherein said drain opening is sealed with a plate spring made of spring steel, which is fixed at one end and the free end of which seals the drain opening, wherein the plate spring can be actuated by a shoulder or a bead of the supporting body for the filter element.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) Liquid filter as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the supporting body has a spring action element, which seals or opens the drain opening.

5. (Previously amended) Liquid filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the filter element is a concentrically constructed element consisting of zigzag-folded filter paper, which at its end faces is provided with end disks and which can be pushed onto the supporting body.

6. (New) Liquid filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixed end of the plate spring is fixed to a floor of the housing with a fastening device, wherein the plate spring includes an opening, and wherein the supporting body extends through the opening of the plate spring and seals the opening with a seal attachment when the plate spring is actuated by the supporting body.